

Medical tools, devices and equipment used for diagnostic or treatment purposes do not qualify for the reduced State rate of tax for medical appliances. See 86 Ill. Adm. Code 130.310(c). (This is a GIL.)

December 31, 2007

Dear Xxxxx:

This letter is in response to your letter dated October 23, 2007, in which you request information. The Department issues two types of letter rulings. Private Letter Rulings ("PLRs") are issued by the Department in response to specific taxpayer inquiries concerning the application of a tax statute or rule to a particular fact situation. A PLR is binding on the Department, but only as to the taxpayer who is the subject of the request for ruling and only to the extent the facts recited in the PLR are correct and complete. Persons seeking PLRs must comply with the procedures for PLRs found in the Department's regulations at 2 Ill. Adm. Code 1200.110. The purpose of a General Information Letter ("GIL") is to direct taxpayers to Department regulations or other sources of information regarding the topic about which they have inquired. A GIL is not a statement of Department policy and is not binding on the Department. See 2 Ill. Adm. Code 1200.120. You may access our website at www.tax.illinois.gov to review regulations, letter rulings and other types of information relevant to your inquiry.

The nature of your inquiry and the information you have provided require that we respond with a GIL. In your letter you have stated and made inquiry as follows:

ABC, would like a written opinion on the taxability of products that test an individual's cholesterol. I have attached the product information for CardioChek Portable Blood Test System and CardioChek Cholesterol Test Strips.

Thank you for your time and assistance in this matter.

DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSE:

All gross receipts from sales of tangible personal property in Illinois are subject to Retailers' Occupation Tax unless an exemption is specifically provided. Medicines and medical appliances are not taxed at the normal State rate of 6.25%. These items are taxed at a lower State rate of 1%. See 86 Ill. Adm. Code 130.310. Items subject to this lower State tax rate include prescription and nonprescription medicines, drugs, medical appliances, and insulin, urine testing utensils, syringes, and needles used by diabetics, for human use.

Medical devices that are used for diagnostic or treatment purposes do not qualify for the lower tax rate. Generally, medical tools, devices and equipment used for diagnostic, rehabilitative and treatment purposes do not qualify for the reduced State rate of tax for medical appliances as such

items, while being used for treatment of patients, are not directly substituting for a malfunctioning part of the body. See 86 Ill. Adm. Code 130.310(c).

The items described in your letter appear to be used for diagnostic purposes and would not generally qualify for the lower State rate of tax for sales of medical appliances as described in 86 Ill. Adm. Code 130.310(c).

I hope this information is helpful. If you require additional information, please visit our website at www.tax.illinois.gov or contact the Department's Taxpayer Information Division at (217) 782-3336. If you are not under audit and you wish to obtain a binding PLR regarding your factual situation, please submit a request conforming to the requirements of 2 Ill. Adm. Code 1200.110 (b).

Very truly yours,

Richard S. Wolters
Associate Counsel

RSW:msk